

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 202025
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:PR CHAVEAS:HMN
APPROVED BY AF:RMMOOSE
NSC-HRICHARDSON
F/W:RGHOUDEK
S/S-O-RCASTRODALE

-----020615 100050Z /21

O R 100029Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 202025

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PPDC, PGOV, NI

SUBJECT: OBASANJO LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER

1. NIGERIAN EMBASSY DELIVERED FOLLOWING LETTER DATED
JULY 26 FROM OBASANJO TO PRESIDENT CARTER TO AF/W ON
AUGUST 9.

QUOTE: DEAR PRESIDENT CARTER, I AVAIL MYSELF OF THE
OPPORTUNITY AFFORDED BY THE LETTER, SENT THROUGH
YOUR EMBASSY HERE, DATED 21ST JUNE, 1978, AND THE
OUTCOME OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
JUST CONCLUDED IN KHARTOUM ON 22ND JULY, 1978, TO EX-
CHANGE VIEWS WITH YOUR EXCELLENCY ON ASPECTS OF THE
ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN FOR RESOLVING THE ISSUE OF ZIMBABWE
INDEPENDENCE.

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YOU INFORMED ME IN YOUR LETTER THAT AMBASSADOR LOW AND
MR. JOHN GRAHAM WERE IN RHODESIA SEEKING TO CONVINCE
THE SALISBURY GROUP THAT THE INTERESTS OF THEIR PEOPLE
WOULD BE BETTER SERVED BY ENTERING INTO DIRECT NEGOTIATION
WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT.

I HAVE JUST COME BACK FROM THE DELIBERATIONS IN KHARTOUM

FULLY CONVINCED OF AFRICA'S WORRIED MOOD AND APPREHENSIONS

REGARDING DRIFT INTO UNCERTAINTY, CAUSED IN THE MAIN, BY THE RELUCTANCE AND, INDEED, REFUSAL OF THE SALISBURY GROUP TO ACCEPT AN ALL-PARTY MEETING. IT SEEMS TO ME ALL TOO CLEAR, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE SALISBURY GROUP HAS PALPABLY FAILED TO ACHIEVE ANY FORM OF CEASEFIRE. ON THE CONTRARY, THE ARMED CONFLICT HAS BEEN ACCELERATED AND INTENSIFIED, RESULTING IN MORE LOSSES OF LIVES AND PROPERTY.

YOUR EXCELLENCY WOULD, NO DOUBT, WISH TO KNOW THAT BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED ABOUT MOVES IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO LIFT SANCTIONS AGAINST SMITH REGIME, WE ADOPTED AN IMPORTANT RESOLUTION IN KHARTOUM. THAT RESOLUTION CALLED UPON ALL STATES TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE AND, IN PARTICULAR, TO STRICTLY ADHERE TO THE EXISTING MANDATORY SANCTIONS AGAINST THE RACIST MINORITY REGIME. THE RESOLUTION ALSO DECLARED IT AS PARTICULARLY INCUMBENT UPON ALL STATES WHICH ARE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO COMPLY WITH THE DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL BY STRICTLY ENFORCING THOSE SANCTIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE APPRECIATE THE VERY HELPFUL STAND OF YOUR ADMINISTRATION IN COUNTERING THE SENATE MOVES.

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MR. PRESIDENT, THE MAIN PURPOSE OF WRITING TO YOU THIS TIME IS TO LET YOU KNOW SOMETHING OF THE MOOD OF AFRICAN STATES ABOUT THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE FOR ZIMBABWE. ACCORDINGLY, I WISH TO SOLICIT YOUR GOOD OFFICES IN OBTAINING THE REVERSAL OF THE PRESENT IMPASSE. THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED IF ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE. THE IRONY OF THE SITUATION SO FAR, HOWEVER, IS THAT IT IS THE SALISBURY GROUP, ESPECIALLY BISHOP MUZOREWA AND REVEREND SITHOLE, WHO ARE THE MOST OPPOSED TO THE IDEA OF AN ALL-PARTY MEETING WITHIN THE TERMS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE. SUPPORT FOR THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS IS WANING AND SUCH SUPPORT CANNOT BE INDEFINITELY MAINTAINED WITHOUT POSITIVE PROGRESS TO INDEPENDENCE AND MAJORITY RULE IN ZIMBABWE.

WHILE EXPECTING TO HEAR FROM YOU FURTHER IN THIS MATTER, PLEASE PERMIT ME, MR. PRESIDENT, TO EXPRESS TO YOU OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR YOUR OWN GOOD HEALTH AND FOR THE PEACE, HAPPINESS AND CONTINUED PROSPERITY OF THE BROTHERLY PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

2. WILL PROVIDE REPLY VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 202025
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY:IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

S/S-O:KDROBINSON

-----028218 101519Z /64

O 101455Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 9421

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 202025

EXDIS FROM AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 202025 ACTION LAGOS INFO PRETORIA AUG 10

QUOTEC O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 202025

EXDIS

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CHANGE VIEWS WITH YOUR EXCELLENCY ON ASPECTS OF THE
ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN FOR RESOLVING THE ISSUE OF ZIMBABWE
INDEPENDENCE.

YOU INFORMED ME IN YOUR LETTER THAT AMBASSADOR LOW AND
MR. JOHN GRAHAM WERE IN RHODESIA SEEKING TO CONVINCE
THE SALISBURY GROUP THAT THE INTERESTS OF THEIR PEOPLE
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PARTICULAR, TO STRICTLY ADHERE TO THE EXISTING MANDATORY
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RESOLUTION ALSO DECLARED IT AS PARTICULARLY INCUMBENT
UPON ALL STATES WHICH ARE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO COMPLY WITH THE DECISIONS OF THE
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2. WILL PROVIDE REPLY VANCE. UNQUOTE VANCE

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Draft Date: 10 aug 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PPDC, PGOV, NI, (CARTER, JIMMY), (OBASANJO, OLUSEGUN)
To: LAGOS
Type: TE
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